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ON THE USE OF CARBON DIOXIDE IN KILLING MARINE ANIMALS.

ALFRED G. MAYER.

For several years I have been making use of sea-water charged with CO_2 for producing anæsthesia in marine animals, thus enabling one to kill them in an expanded state.

One of the soda-water siphon-bottles, sold in the market under the trade name of "Sparklet Bottles," is filled with sea-water and this is charged with CO_2 by means of the "Sparklet bulb."

This charged sea-water is then poured into a vessel containing ordinary sea-water in which the marine animals are living, and in a few moments they are completely narcotized, and may then be killed in a fully expanded state by the addition of any killing fluid.

In some instances the CO_2 should be followed by the addition of a small quantity of chloretone, but this appears to be necessary only in the case of Siphonophoræ wherein it entirely prevents the casting off of the swimming bells.

This simple method enables one to obtain excellent preparations for histological or for museum purposes of such delicate marine animals as the medusæ. It is also applicable to Crustacea, Worms, Mollusca, etc.

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